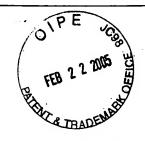


ARNOLD & PORTER LLP



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February 22, 2005

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Art Unit: 1638 Examiner: S.F. Baum Conf. No.: 8916

Re:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/024,632 filed December 19, 2001

Inventors: Steven S. HE et al.

Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules Associated with Plant Cell

Proliferation and Growth and Uses Thereof

Atty. Dkt: 16517.327

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

- 1. Notice of Appeal from the Examiner to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences; and
- 2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

Authorization is hereby given to charge the statutory fee of \$500.00 for filing a Notice of Appeal to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.327. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.327. A duplicate copy of this letter is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Holsten (Reg. No. 46,098)

Enclosures

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re patent application of:

Confirmation No.: 8916

Steve S. HE et al.

Art Unit: 1638

Appln. No.: 10/024,632

Examiner: Stuart F. Baum

Filed: December 19, 2001

Atty. Docket: 16517.327

For:

Nucleic Acid Molecules Associated with Plant Cell Proliferation and Growth and

Uses Thereof

Notice of Appeal from the Examiner to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision of the Examiner mailed November 19, 2004, that resulted in Applicants having claims that have been twice or finally rejected.

Authorization to charge the official fee for this filing is given in the accompanying transmittal letter.

02/23/2005 MGEBREM1 00000111 502387

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Date: February 22, 2005

Of Counsel:

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Respectfully submitted,

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